

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

The abstract as amended on the following page with a replacement abstract shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~ or with double brackets [[ ]] where the text being deleted contains a hyphen "-" that would be obscured by ~~striketrough~~ as permitted by 37 CFR 1.121(b)(1)(ii) and MPEP 714(II)(B) (see MPEP page 700-239).

Please REPLACE the original abstract filed on February 18, 2004, with the amended abstract on the following page.

ABSTRACT-OF DISCLOSURE

~~A recording medium storing a write protection information, and a write protection method for protecting data recorded on a recordable and/or rewritable disc from unwanted overwriting or erasing. In order for~~ To provide write protection of a disc in a bare state that is usually used in a cartridge having a recognition switch for ~~[[write-protection]]~~ write protection, such as a DVD-RAM, write protection information is recorded in a Lead-in area, a Lead-out area or a recording information area other than a user data area of the disc, and the data is protected from unwanted overwriting or erasing using the write protection information. ~~Also, even though~~ Even when the write protection information stored on a disc does not match the state of a recognition switch of a case for ~~[[write-protection]]~~ write protection, the data can be prevented from unwanted overwriting or erasing. ~~Thus, the write~~ Thus, write protection can be ensured when a recordable and/or rewritable recording medium, such as a DVD-RAM, a DVD-R and or a DVD-RW, is used in a bare state.